

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

**FOR CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT FIRM TO CREATE AN
ATLANTA LGBTQ+ HISTORIC CONTEXT STATEMENT**

PREPARED BY:

HISTORIC ATLANTA, INC.

RFP DATE: August 13, 2021

RESPONSES DUE: September 3, 2021

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (“RFP”) ATLANTA LGBTQ+ HISTORIC CONTEXT STATEMENT

BACKGROUND

Historic Atlanta, a registered non-for-profit organization in the State of Georgia, is soliciting responses to this Request for Proposals (“RFP”) from interested and qualified Cultural Resource Managers and Cultural Resource Management (CRM) firms wishing to provide services to draft an LGBTQ+ Historic Context Statement for the City of Atlanta from August 2021 to August 15, 2022.

With generous contributions from Mailchimp, The Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation, The National Trust for Historic Preservation, and individual donors, partnered with the support from Atlanta Pride; and Georgia Equality; Historic Atlanta raised the matching funds for a Federal historic preservation grant. In partnership with the City of Atlanta, Historic Atlanta was awarded a Certified Local Government grant from the Georgia Historic Preservation Division to produce a Historic Context Statement for LGBTQ+ historic resources in the City of Atlanta.

Atlanta has been a location of notable LGBTQ+ events and communities in the southeast since at least the mid-20th century. As an underrepresented group, the historic context and historic resources associated with the LGBTQ+ community in Atlanta have yet to be adequately identified and documented. To date, there has not been a property in Georgia listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) with a focus on LGBTQ+ significance. As extant resources associated with this theme are identified as potentially eligible for the NRHP, the need for informed analysis of Atlanta’s LGBTQ+ significant historic resources sufficient to pursue NRHP nomination, becomes increasingly imperative. Additionally, as the City of Atlanta is undergoing unprecedented growth and physical change, there is heightened need for analysis of these unique resources for potential protection under the Historic Preservation Ordinance of the City of Atlanta.

SUBMITTAL DEADLINE

All responses to this RFP must be submitted via email by no later than **5:00 p.m. September 3, 2021**. Responses received after this time and date will not be considered. Please address the Response to (email preferred):

chair@historicalatlanta.org

Charles Lawrence Chair, Board of Directors

Historic Atlanta

1516 Peachtree Street NW

Atlanta, Georgia 30309

PROFESSIONAL FEE

All Respondents are asked to provide proposed pricing within your proposal. Please include any expected direct costs in the proposed fee. Final fees will be negotiated following the selection of the Consultant. If fee negotiations with the Respondent determined most qualified are not successful, and/or the fees discussed are outside the budgetary constraints for the Project, Historic Atlanta reserves the right to suspend negotiations with the Respondent initially deemed most qualified and proceed to other Respondents.

LETTERS of INTENT and INQUIRES

Prospective Respondents are strongly encouraged to send an email indicating interest/intent in preparing a proposal to: **chair@historicalatlanta.org**

All interested parties may submit inquiries by 5:00 p.m. **August 23, 2021**. Historic Atlanta will email all interested parties responses to all inquiries. Only prospective consultants that have provided an email address will receive responses to questions.

Only inquiries received by email by the date above will receive a response. Please do not contact any Historic Atlanta individuals by telephone with any questions or comments pertaining to this RFP.

SCOPE OF SERVICES

Research objective of the historic context: To define and establish a methodology for analysis of Atlanta's LGBTQ+ associated historic resources, to facilitate evaluation of extant, associated resources for eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and potential protection under the City of Atlanta's Historic Preservation Ordinance, and to identify historic resources, both extant and not extant, and themes associated with the LGBTQ+ community.

All project work shall conform to the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards for Archaeology and Historic Preservation*, which include the *Standards for Evaluation, Identification, and Registration*. Understanding the breadth of the research to be done, Historic Atlanta requests that research and archival material be submitted with the final document along with recommendations for the appropriate storage of such material.

The National Park Service has detailed guidance for developing and applying historic contexts; the consultant shall reference and ensure deliverables adhere to the following, as applicable:

1. ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION: Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines; Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Preservation Planning. https://www.nps.gov/history/local-law/arch_stnds_1.htm.
2. *NR White Paper: The Components of a Historic Context*. <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/publications.htm>.
3. National Register Bulletin: How to Complete the National Register Registration Form. <https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/upload/NRB16A-Complete.pdf>.
4. National Register Bulletin: How to Complete the National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form. https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/upload/NRB-15_web508.pdf.

In addition, previously completed and related resources that shall be referenced by the consultant for content and format include:

1. LGBTQ America: A Theme Study of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer History. Washington, DC: National Park Foundation etc., 2016. San Francisco.
2. Berger, Louis. Historic Context Statement for Washington's LGBTQ Resources, 2019. (Prepared for District of Columbia, Office of Planning, Historic Preservation Office)
3. GPA Consulting. San Diego Citywide LGBTQ Historic Context Statement, 2016. (City of San Diego Department of City Planning)

4. NYC LGBT Historic Sites Project. Historic Context Statement for LGBT History In New York City, 2018. (Prepared for The National Park Service and the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation)

The selected consultant will also be expected to identify and describe past and ongoing research and documentation of LGBTQ+ history. This includes, but is not limited to, the work of the following individuals and organizations:

- Morna Gerrard, GSU Special Collections and Archives
- Dr. Ashley Coleman-Taylor, Black LGBTQ Oral History Project
- Charles Stephens, Counter Narrative Project
- Dr. Jesse Peel, Activist (manuscripts available at Emory University's Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library)
- Abby Drue, The Ben Marion Institute for Social Justice
- Anne Vagts, Atlanta-Fulton Public Library
- Randy Gue, Emory University
- Amanda Pellerin, Georgia Institute of Technology
- Leah Lefkowitz, Atlanta History Center
- Martin Padgett, author
- Dave Heyward, Touching Up Our Roots
- Chad Keller, GSU Heritage Preservation Program

The selected consultant will also identify individuals significant to Atlanta LGBTQ+ history and will conduct interviews where feasible to gain a more complete understanding of the Atlanta LGBTQ+ community and to provide a more compelling narrative.

The historic context statement shall include items as identified in the National Park Service's guidance for historic contexts as listed above, along with supporting documentation, including relevant photographs and illustrations. Detailed requirements for the contents of the document's primary sections are outlined below.

Suggested Statement of Historic Context

The proposed historic context statement should contain the following sections:

1. Executive summary
2. Project description
3. Methodology
4. Summary statement that includes how this context may be used as a model for other communities in analysis of historic resources.

5. Historic context narrative

6. Appendices

The narrative context should comprise a written account of how the LGBTQ+ community within the city limits developed over time and how it reflects distinctive aspects of Georgia's history, and how the built environment and associated historic resources within the defined area were influenced by the following topics:

- Early coalescence and development of LGBTQ+ communities in Atlanta and the South
- Founding of gay and lesbian rights organizations in response to harassment and discrimination
- Development of LGBTQ+ friendly nodes, places, and spaces throughout Atlanta
- Atlanta Pride
- LGBTQ+ Rights movement
- The 1980s AIDS epidemic
- Minority groups
- Key local figures and properties
- Arts and culture

Conceptual framework:

1. Introduction
2. Definitions/glossary/acronyms
 - a. Important as some terms may be unfamiliar outside of the respective communities, and to acknowledge the evolving usage of terms and acronyms throughout history.
3. Historical Overview organized according to themes
4. Identified Themes (Identifies people, places, themes, important events each with a narrative, table/list of identified resources, eligibility standards)
 - a. Each identified resource type should be listed separately within themes, and accompanied by:
 - i. Resource Type Description
 - ii. Resource Type Significance
 - iii. Resource Type Registration Requirements (or similar)
5. Inventory of identified historic resources that had a known association with LGBTQ+ history (even if no longer extant), as identified during research, divided per theme if applicable.
6. Identification of process and registration requirements in terms of eligibility evaluation and nomination to both the National Register and the City of Atlanta Historic Preservation Ordinance designation criteria, including but not limited to:

- a. Guidance to determine, evaluate and nominate resources generally AND per theme.
 - b. Areas of significance per theme.
 - c. Periods of significance per theme.
 - d. Character-defining features per theme.
 - e. Assessing integrity: make recommendations regarding key aspects of integrity that should be considered when analyzing associated resources for eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or potential designation under the City of Atlanta's Historic Preservation Ordinance, per theme.
 - i. Of particular importance, strategies for assessing integrity of association and location when dealing with lesser-documented and underrepresented significance (For example, in the context of Atlanta, is a resource necessarily significant if it was the location of one meeting associated with LGBTQ+ rights? What must be understood and documented and what questions must be answered about the meeting, the context, the era, the people involved, etcetera in order to demonstrate significance?)
 - f. Criteria Consideration G: Properties that Have Achieved Significance Within the Past Fifty Years; address how resources would meet this, if applicable.
7. Case Studies; minimum one per theme. Provide an example of how a resource would be evaluated using this context, and how it could meet the criteria and integrity requirements for listing in the NRHP or potential designation under the City of Atlanta's Historic Preservation Ordinance. Ensure that strategies for comparative analysis of each resource to comparable historic resources are included. These will serve as templates for what to consider when evaluating a resource within each theme.
8. Recommendations (future research, preservation efforts, etc.)
- a. Plan for where materials collected as part of this project will be stored.
9. Documentation: Provide strategies for documenting properties with underrepresented significance to NPS standards, including but not limited to strategies for using sources such as oral histories to meet NPS standards, and determining "how much is enough" to demonstrate significance and integrity. Provide perspective on how available specific documentation related to LGBTQ+ generally is (include examples from previous recent nominations), and recommend research strategies and sources for obtaining documentation on this category of resources, both Atlanta-specific and more generally.
10. Selected Bibliography

The final reports shall conform in punctuation, footnote, and bibliographic form, as well as other stylistic matters, to the Chicago Manual of Style, 17th edition or higher and the Denver Service Center Editorial Style Guide, May 2014. The report will be written according to accepted scholarly standards, meaning that it will be in standard, formal English, in complete sentences, and will not contain slang, contractions or other characteristics of informal or casual writing. The report will be fully documented according to scholarly standards with footnotes, not endnotes, providing reference information (including page numbers) for all factual material and quotations

taken from other sources.

Timeline:

The Consultant will complete project work by the following due dates.

September 15, 2021 - Notice to Proceed.

November 15, 2021 - Document Outline, Research Plan, and Community Engagement Plan.

February 1, 2022 - 50% Submittal consisting of complete draft sections TBD.

April 1, 2022 - 90% Submittal consisting of the remainder of complete draft sections TBD.

July 1, 2022 - 100% Draft document formatted for publishing.

September 15, 2022 - Final Historic Context Statement in hard copy format, four (4) copies bound of each and two (2) electronic CD/DVD of each.

Submittal

Cover Letter: Responses should include a cover letter providing an introduction to the firm or team and include relevant project experience (up to five recent examples).

Team Bios: Include the name, resumes, and contact information for all individuals that will perform or assist in performing the services described therein. If responding as a team, the lead firm should be designated with a project manager identified as the single point of contact and include a project team organizational chart.

Project Familiarity and Approach: Responses should include a brief narrative illustrating the consultant's familiarity and experience with the project theme and a description of how the consultant will approach research, writing, and production of the context study.

Project Fee: Responses should include the proposed fee, as a lump sum fee inclusive of all direct expenses and anticipated costs.

EVALUATION & ACCEPTANCE

Proposals will be evaluated on their submittals with emphasis on experience, proposed approach, and proposed fee. Historic Atlanta will notify the successful respondent via email on or before **September 10, 2021**. Historic Atlanta reserves the right to reject any and all responses, to amend this RFP and the process itself, or to discontinue the process at any time.

Historic Atlanta will not, for any reason, reimburse a Respondent for costs and/or expenses in connection with responding to this RFP.